Government of the District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Philip H. Mendelson

Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi

Chief Financial Officer

DATE: September 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - "District Department of Transportation

Accessible Vehicles Fund Emergency Amendment Act of 2012"

REFERENCE: Draft Bill as shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on September

14, 2012

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2013 through FY 2016 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The Transportation for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities Program¹ ("5310 Program") is administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and provides federal funding for states and the District of Columbia to assist non-profit organizations in meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities. Funds are apportioned based on a formula that considers each state's share in the total population for the affected groups. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) typically receives between \$400,000 and \$500,000 each fiscal year which annually aids 7 to 15 non-profit organizations² in the purchase of needed service vehicles. The 5310 Program funds 80 percent of vehicle purchase costs³ and the selected non-profit organizations provide the remaining 20 percent plus any required fees and taxes.

¹ An Act to revise, codify, and enact without substantive change certain general and permanent laws, related to transportation, as subtitles II, III, and V-X of title 49, United States Code, "Transportation", and to make other technical improvements in the Code, approved July 5, 1994 (Public Law 103-272;49 U.S.C. § 5310).

² DDOT receives applications from non-profit organizations and analyzes the applications along with other District agencies and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments to select final recipients.

³ Ten percent of the 5310 Program funds can be used for administrative costs and are funded by FTA at 100 percent (no local match required).

The Honorable Philip H. Mendelson

FIS: Draft bill, "District Department of Transportation Accessible Vehicles Fund Emergency Amendment Act of 2011" shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on September 14, 2012

The bill gives DDOT's Director the authority enter into agreements with non-profit organizations for the purpose of allocating and expending the 5310 Program funds. The Director is also authorized to solicit applications from non-profits, enter into third party agreements for the procurement and maintenance of vehicles, and issue rules required to implement the program. Additionally, the bill allows DDOT to receive the required matching funds from the non-profit organizations into the DDOT Enterprise Fund for Transportation Initiatives⁴ (Fund) and ensures that expenditures on the 5310 Program are allowed from the Fund.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2013 through FY 2016 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. All of the 5310 Program costs are paid for by federal and private funds, so there is no impact on the District's budget.

DDOT typically receives from FTA between \$400,000 and \$500,000 each fiscal year. Upon selecting recipients of the FTA funds, DDOT signs grant agreements with the non-profit organizations and they are required to submit the 20 percent match, which will be deposited in the Fund.

⁴ Department of Transportation Establishment Act of 2002, effective May 21, 2002 (D.C. Law 14-137; D.C. Official Code § 50-921.13).